Remarks

The limitations pertaining to regeneration of the adsorbent in the first zone in the last five lines of original Claim 18 have been incorporated into Claims 1 and 10. The limitations of original Claim 2 have also been incorporated into Claim 1, and Claim 2 has been cancelled.

The method disclosed in Kaminsky et al. '905 for regenerating the sole adsorbent disclosed therein differs markedly from the method for regenerating the adsorbent in the first zone in Applicants' claimed method. Both the reducing gas employed in the regeneration step in Kaminsky et al '905 and the reducing gas employed in the regeneration step in Applicants' claimed process contain dihydrogen. However, only the reducing gas employed in the regeneration step in Applicants' claimed process contains carbon monoxide. In fact, the reducing gas in Applicants' regeneration step contains at least 50 parts per million of carbon monoxide.

The reducing gas employed in Applicant's regeneration step is the source of the carbon monoxide that is retained in the adsorbent bed in the first zone of Applicants' claimed process. Thus, the second zone in the Applicants' claimed process is employed and is necessary only because carbon monoxide is present in the reducing gas employed in the regeneration step and introduced into the first zone in Applicants' claimed process.

Since Kaminsky et al. '905 does not employ carbon monoxide in the reducing gas in its regeneration step, carbon monoxide is not introduced in the adsorbent bed in the method of the Kaminsky et al. '905. Consequently, there is no need to remove carbon monoxide from the effluent mixture from the adsorbent zone in the method of Kaminsky et al. '905. Obviously there is no suggestion in Kaminsky et al. '905 to combine its disclosure with any other disclosure in order to remove carbon monoxide from the effluent mixture from its adsorbent zone.

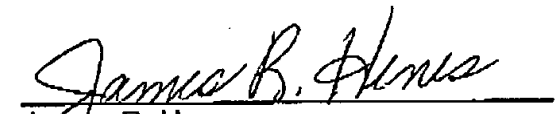
Hirai et al. discloses a method for removing carbon monoxide from a gas mixture containing carbon monoxide together with nitrogen, oxygen, methane, carbon dioxide and hydrogen. However, Hirai et al. does not disclose the

removal of carbon monoxide from a gaseous mixture containing an olefin of from 2 to 8 carbon atoms, such as ethylene or propylene. Clearly, there is no suggestion in Hirai et al. to remove carbon monoxide from a gaseous mixture containing an olefin of from 2 to 8 carbon atoms, and therefore there is no suggestion in Hirai et al. to combine its disclosure with the disclosure of Kaminsky et al. '905.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that their Claims 1 and 3-20 are allowable, and reconsideration and allowance thereof are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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